Team 5

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**Lessons Learned**

In this iteration of the Woodbridge Foam Fabricating Inc. Database Tracker solution, we were able to produce a great quality product and meet most of the requirements agreed upon. With that being said, there were a few lessons learned that we would take forward with us into a future iteration of the solution. In the following report, we will discuss each problem that we encountered throughout this iteration (semester) and how we would try to reduce further complications in future iterations.

From a project management standpoint, one of difficulties that arose was successfully scheduling meetings that aligned with both our team’s school schedule and the client’s work schedule. Everyone involved was consistently busy so our solution to this was to come up with several times that we could potentially meet with the client in our stand-up meetings and then email them a list of times so that they could choose one that fits with their schedule. This process had to be done multiple times throughout the iteration and we found success in scheduling our meetings using this method.

Another issue that we encountered in the software engineering process was that some of the requirements that Woodbridge had were out of our scope for this iteration and we would not have time to accomplish them before the iteration period ended. Woodbridge had a big wish list of specifications for the final delivery. One of the lessons learned was on how to communicate to the business about our constraints and still come up with a way to produce a useful product. We accomplished this by taking thorough notes during our three hour sit down with the client. In this meeting we got to see the business process and get more than one perspective on the project because there was a manager present as well as our contact from Woodbridge. We discussed several of the updates in detail and noticed some contradicting views between the management at Woodbridge on what they wanted. With that being said, getting more than one perspective ultimately allowed us to prioritize the specifications according to the feedback we got during the meeting. By prioritizing the specifications we were able to focus on the updates that our team could successfully implement and therefore deliver a product to the client with many of the functionalities that wanted. After prioritizing the specifications, the Project Manager created a Contingency Plan to communicate to the business what requirements our team would focus on for this iteration, which they agreed to. Even though the final result was different than the initial expectation, by prioritizing the business requirements we were able to successfully complete a project that proved to be very useful for Woodbridge.

Lastly, we learned about how to conduct testing on a large software product such as the Tracker Database. To help ensure that efficient changes were made, we had the developers on the team do peer reviews of each other’s stories. This really helped increase the quality of our work. For example, when the first audit and accountability tables were made they had some fields that were not going to be used often. After the peer review the table fields were condensed to be much more simple and easier to read. To test the final changes, developers created test plans which were then tested by the Quality Assurance Manager and the Project Manager. This careful testing process allowed our team to be confident in the quality of the software product that is being delivered to our client. From a Quality Assurance Manager standpoint, assessing customer requirements was a priority in order to ensure that we narrowed down what exactly we needed to do. From this, we were able to learn how to communicate with a business and also communicate together as a team. We learned how to produce test plans that are relevant and are as close as possible to the work environment in which this software would be used. This helped to determine what things needed to be fixed or improved so we can give the best final product to our client.

In conclusion, this project helped our team to gain real world experience by working with a local business. Even though we faced some challenges along the way, we are grateful for an opportunity to learn skills that will help us to further develop our careers in Software Engineering. The project was a success and we were able to deliver a great solution to Woodbridge and gain some valuable experience along the way.